

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

There are many important decisions that the voters will need to make in this upcoming election, especially at the local level. This provides a wonderful opportunity for Broadcasters to do their civic duty and provide extensive non-partisan discussions, informative talks and equal-weighted partisan arguments that would inform the voter.

But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. As the old saying goes, "Freedom of the press goes to the person who owns one". I urge you to stop the media press from evolving into an ownership of a limited number of large corporations. You must maintain diversity in the public media to ensure that large media giants never play a significant role in influencing the outcome of any election.

The license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.